Bengal. This large wall map not only shows the world's largest and deepest ocean and the war's biggest single arena, but also covers the United States, Australia, half of India, eastern Asia, western South America and parts of Alaska and Canada.

The Pacific Ocean has most of the world's islands. The most important and strategic of these islands are shown on the map by fifty-six large-scale insets. These insets have been chosen to include those islands recently in the news and those expected to be scenes of action soon. Among them are Marcus, Tarawa, Wake, Paramushiro, Nauru, Attu, Kiska, New Britain, Makin, Funafuti, Truk and the Solomons.

Considerably more than half the world is pictured on the map. The Pacific Ocean is twenty-three times as large as the United States. There are fifteen distinct time belts, each belt with a clock at the bottom of the map indicating the local time when it is midnight in Greenwich. The map clearly shows that not all Pacific areas are on an hourly basis in relation to Greenwich. It is 1: 22 P.M. in the Cook Islands when it is midnight in Greenwich.

Airline mileages are given, 1,035 of them, in a table of statute or land miles printed on the map. It can be seen at a glance that from Rabaul to Tokyo is 2,870 miles; from Kiska to Paramushiro, 948 miles. Nautical distances from port to port are indicated on the blue-dashed ship lines. Ocean currents are shown in blue-arrowed lines; ocean depth contours in brown lines; winds in brown-arrowed lines. Northern and southern limits of drift ice are indicated.

The map includes the Bay of Bengal, so as to include all possible sources of drives on Tokyo. Motor roads, under construction and completed, from India and Burma to China, are shown. Other important highways are the Russia-to-China desert route and the Alaska Military Highway.

Pre-war political alignments of the many Pacific Islands are identified by color: the traditional red for Great Britain's possessions, purple for France, green for the United States, yellow for the Netherlands, etc. Mandated areas and spheres of influence in the South Pacific are enclosed by red-dotted lines giving the names of the governing powers.

DESTRUCTION OF THE BERLIN HERBARIUM

ANNOUNCEMENT was made in SCIENCE for June 18, 1943, on the basis of private advice received from Sweden, that the herbarium and library of the Berlin Botanical Garden was destroyed by fire in a bombing raid on the night of March 1–2, 1943. This report is now confirmed by information received through the State Department, inquiries having been made at my request through the American legation at Bern, Switzerland. This report, dated September 1, states that the director of the Jardin Botanique at Geneva, Switzerland, has been officially informed that all its material on loan to the Berlin Herbarium was destroyed by fire and water; we may thus assume that all reference collections from American institutions on loan at Berlin were also destroyed. There is no evidence that any attempt was made, in Berlin, to safeguard its especially important botanical material, including its own thousands of types, and types borrowed from foreign institutions, by moving them to a safer place, as was done in London, and as has been done by a number of American herbaria. The loss of the Berlin herbarium is a catastrophe of major proportions to world botany. This herbarium, one of the largest and most important in the world, built up over a period of at least 175 years, contained the basic historical collections of Germany outside of those at Munich. Scores of thousands of type specimens from all parts of the world were thus destroyed.

It seems to be desirable to place on record some data regarding outstanding loans from American institutions in European centers of botanical research as of the present time, including a summary of presumed losses in the Berlin holocaust. I accordingly assembled the data from nine of our largest herbaria. The total losses of these American herbaria in the Berlin disaster are 4,393 specimens, varying from a high of 1,795 from the Gray Herbarium to a low of 164 from the Farlow Herbarium. The total number of specimens now outstanding in European centers is 30,966, with a high of 11,242 from Harvard University (Gray Herbarium, Farlow Herbarium, Arnold Arboretum), to a low of 145 specimens from the Missouri Botanical Garden. The Field Museum of Natural History outstanding loans total 1,567 sheets, the United States National Herbarium 6,807, the New York Botanical Garden, 8,750, the University of California 2,312 and the Missouri Botanical Garden 145; their Berlin loans are Farlow Herbarium 164, Gray Herbarium 1,795, Arnold Arboretum 394, New York Botanical Garden 675, U. S. National Herbarium 993, and the Field Museum of Natural History 373.

That other losses are to be expected is evident from a consideration of the European centers wherein the botanical institutions favored with loans from American institutions are situated, considering the very heavy bombing raids on certain cities in the following list: Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Vienna, Königsberg, Heidelberg, Giessen, Jena, Breslau, Prague, Budapest, Lund, Stockholm, Uppsala, Utrecht, Leiden, Basel, Leningrad, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Geneva, Paris, Toulouse, Madrid, London, Edinburgh and Birmingham. In the total of 30,966 specimens now on loan from the nine American herbaria to institutions in the above cities, specimens on loan to institutions in

Japan, China, Java and Palestine are not included, and no account has been taken of other loans to various institutions in South America.

Inter-institutional loans of study material have been very largely developed within the present century, and these loans have been reciprocal as between European and other institutions and those in the United States. Under anything approaching normal conditions, losses are very rare, for modern transportation has been found to be safe. While the loss of certain selected collections from American institutions on loan in Berlin will be felt by workers in our herbaria, the really irreplaceable loss is that of the Berlin herbarium itself. Fortunately many of the types of earlier described species in the Berlin collection have been studied by various American botanists and records published; and again, thanks to the initiative of the Field Museum of Natural History, with the support of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, 15,800 Berlin types of tropical American species were photographed some years ago, and prints from the negatives may be secured. Thus this photographic record, plus the original descriptions, is now all that is available in thousands of cases to represent the species as originally described. The total number of negatives prepared for the Field Museum representing types and important historical specimens from tropical America in European herbaria is approximately 40,000.

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MEETINGS OF ENTOMOLOGISTS

THE American Association of Economic Entomologists and the Entomological Society of America are holding in Columbus from December 7 to 9 a conference devoted to "Entomology and the War."

The two groups did not meet last year, but their present responsibilities are such as demand a conference on both health and food problems arising from the war.

According to Professor T. H. Parks, who is chairman of the local committee, the American Association of Economic Entomologists now has 1,575 members who have the responsibility of administering about fifteen million dollars of public funds annually on health, food and shelter problems—most of it on research and control operations.

Topics at the Columbus meeting concern "Medical Entomology in War-time" and "Agricultural Entomology in War-time." Taking part will be specialists in the medical and sanitary work of the U. S. and Canadian armed forces. Chemical control of insects affecting man's health and comfort will be discussed.

Officers of the American Association of Economic Entomologists are P. N. Annand, Washington, D. C., *president;* Avery S. Hoyt, Washington, *vice-president;* Ernest N. Cory, College Park, Md., *secretary-treasurer.*

Officers of the Entomological Society of America are C. P. Alexander, Amherst, *president;* Miriam A. Palmer, Fort Collins, Colo., *first vice-president;* William T. Davis, Staten Island, N. Y., *second vice-president;* and Clarence E. Mickel, St. Paul, Minn., *secretary-treasurer.*

THE INFORMATIONAL SERVICE OF THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL SCIENCES OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

PROFESSOR ROSS G. HARRISON, chairman of the National Research Council, has announced the appointment of Major General James Carre Magee, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, retired, as executive officer of the Informational Service of the Division of Medical Sciences. This service has been established by the National Research Council under the recent grant of the Johnson and Johnson Research Foundation, by which the sum of $75,000 was made available to the council for the period ending June 30, 1945. The purpose of the grant is to enable the council to assemble and disseminate, as far as possible, medical information pertaining to the war effort.

General Magee has had a distinguished record in the Medical Corps of the Army. A graduate of Jefferson Medical College in 1905, he has spent his entire professional life in the medical service of the Army. He was assigned to the Philippines before the outbreak of the first World War and then recalled for European duty from 1917 to 1919. He was appointed Surgeon General of the Army in 1939, and on May 31, 1943, he was retired on completion of the four-year term of duty. It was under his direction that the Medical Corps was enormously expanded to meet the demands of the present war and the program of service adopted which has led to the remarkable health record of the Army. General Magee holds the honorary degree of doctor of science from Jefferson Medical College, and was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for outstanding accomplishments as Surgeon General.

General Magee, who assumed his duties on December 1, will devote full time to the organization of a central office in the National Research Council which will collect medical reports and records, widely dealing with military medical practice, civilian practice as affected by the war, medical education and research and the distribution of diseases. The materials collected will, so far as military necessities permit, be made available by publications, summaries and notes.

ROYAL SOCIETY MEDALISTS

THE King of England has approved the recommendations made by the council of the Royal Society for